clads, the juice of the oak having, I am informed, an injurious effect on the iron, which is not found to be the case with the teak. The value of the oak bark has also much decreased of late years, owing to the adoption of other substances for tanning, and large imports of foreign bark.

Still the value of the timber in the Royal forests and woodlands must be very great. It was estimated in 1849 as 1,087,777*l.* for the enclosed plantations made since 1808 alone, and the value of the same plantations when at maturity was then estimated at 10,000,000*l.* If to this be added the woods and plantations which existed prior to 1808, and those which have been formed since 1849, it will give some idea of the valuable property administered by Her Majesty's Commissioners and the forest officers of the Crown.

It is, however, scarcely necessary to point out how much more valuable and deserving of care and attention is the forest property of the State in India, where the extent may be considered as miles for acres, on the most moderate computation, and the climatic considerations and the agricultural wants of the people give to the subject of forest conservancy a special interest beyond what it demands in this country, where the climate is temperate, rain-fall plentiful, and iron and coal take the place of wood for many purposes to which the latter is adapted, and for which, in fact, it forms the sole resource in India.

I beg here to express my thanks to the Deputy surveyors of the several forests, their assistants, and all with whom I have had the honour of being officially brought into contact during my visits to the forests, for their kindness and civility, and the anxiety which they have uniformly evinced to afford me every information and assistance in their power, even, I fear, in some cases, to their own inconvenience and discomfort. I cannot too strongly express my appreciation of the kind manner in which I was received as a brother forester.

Windsor Great Park and Sandhurst Woods.

I went round these woods with Mr. Menzies, the deputy surveyor, but as they are avowedly more ornamental than profitable I do not purpose submitting any detailed report on them.

Oak Woods.—The plantations in the park are mainly oak, which attains a great size; of late years there has been considerable planting of *coniferæ* in clumps for ornamental purposes.

The plantations known as the Swinley Woods are the finest and most extensive, and present a uniformity and evenness of growth which can only result from the most careful training from the day they were planted out.

"*Stag-headed*" trees are very rare, the greatest care being taken, and certainly with marked success, to encourage and help the tree to preserve one leading shoot. The manner in which this is effected is the more remarkable, as Mr. Menzies disapproves of pruning as practised in the Scotch forests, and relies mainly, I might almost say entirely, on careful training, by judicious thinning and allowing each tree to stand on its own ground and then make its own way.

Scotch Fir Woods.—The Scotch fir woods, which are chiefly self-sown, are extensive, and contain a very fine supply of timber.

They are situated for the most part in the vicinity of Sandhurst, and interspersed here and there with patches of beech.

Mr. Menzies finds it best in felling the fir to clear out patches only, leaving belts of mature trees standing. This facilitates, and in fact provides for natural reproduction, and affords shelter to the young trees as they grow up.

Workshops.—The workshops, containing saw machinery of every description, are particularly deserving of note, although constructed on too expensive and extensive a scale for practical adaptation for our purposes. The late Prince Consort took a special interest in them, and personally superintended much of the work, and the workshops now bear his name.

The general management and growth of the timber trees are such as will repay a visit, although this Crown forest must not be considered from an economic point of view, and there is now no planting carried on save for ornamental purposes.

The extent under crop is difficult to ascertain, owing to the scattered nature of the plantations and woods, and it is not stated in the Return of Royal Forests and Woodlands made by order of the House of Commons in 1863, which contains the acreage, &c. of all the other Crown forests.

In fact, the circumstances of these woods are quite exceptional, as appertaining to the Royal residence at Windsor, and constituting the recreation ground of the Sovereign and public.

The total receipts for 1870–71 were 7,484*l.*, while the expenditure amounted to 20,613*l.*